

view of Lundberg. The rejections of the claims are discussed below in the corresponding sections.

Rejections of Claims 12-16

The method of claim 12 includes affixing an electrical cord to a work surface.

In contrast, Graybill teaches an electrical cord storage and dispensing organizer. However, Graybill does not teach or suggest mounting either the disclosed organizer or the electrical cord stored inside the organizer to a work surface. Thus, Graybill neither teaches nor suggests affixing an electrical cord to a work surface, and for at least this reason, the Assignee requests withdrawal of the rejections of claim 12 and claims 13-16 that depend therefrom.

Rejections of Claims 17-21

The method of claim 17 includes anchoring an electrical cord to a work surface, a limitation neither taught nor suggested by Graybill, as discussed above in connection with claim 12. Therefore, the Assignee requests withdrawal of the rejections of claim 17 and claims 18-21 that depend therefrom.

Rejections of Claims 26-35

The method of claim 26 includes positioning a peripheral input device attached to a computer via an electrical cord and retracting slack in the electrical cord as the peripheral input device is positioned. A fixed length of the electrical cord is maintained between the peripheral input device and the computer.

In contrast, Graybill teaches folding a cable in half such that there are two equal lengths of the cable and then engaging the resultant mid-point of the cable with a cord loop 80 of a cordwheel 65. Graybill, column 4, lines 3-8. In this manner, Graybill teaches winding up the folded cord on the cordwheel 65 so that excess slack in the folded cord may be taken out by releasing tension on the folded cord to permit the cord wheel 65 to retract the folded cord. Graybill, column 4, lines 12-19. Due to this arrangement, a fixed length of electrical cord is not maintained between the organizer and a computer. Therefore, Graybill neither teaches nor suggests maintaining a fixed length of electrical cord between a peripheral input device and a

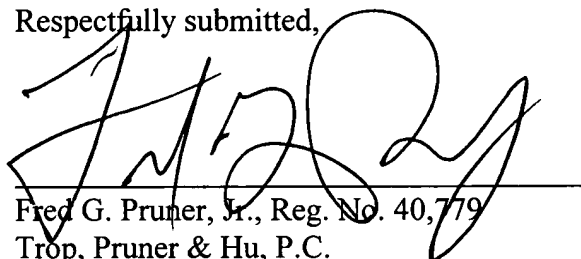
computer, and for at least this reason, the Assignee requests withdrawal of the rejections of claim 26 and claims 27-35 that depend therefrom.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the Assignee requests withdrawal of the rejections and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance. The Patent Office is authorized to charge any additional costs associated with this amendment and/or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (MICE-0060-00-US).

3/2/01
Date

Respectfully submitted,



Fred G. Pruner, Jr., Reg. No. 40,779
Trop, Pruner & Hu, P.C.
8554 Katy Freeway, Ste. 100
Houston, TX 77024
713/468-8880
713/468-8883 [fax]